



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

MEETING MINUTES

West Hartford Clean Energy Task Force

January 9, 2017

7:00 PM

Rm 405

1. Roll Call – 7:09 PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	X	Dave Mello	X
Robert Palmer		Max Dubuisson	X
Bernie Pelletier		Vacant (staff)	
Joe Campanella	X		
Chris Nelson	X		
Total	(3 needed for quorum)		
Additional Attendees	Ted Loewenthal, Katherine Bruns, Matt Macunas, George Porter		

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Dec 12, 2016 - approved

3. Communications/Administration

- a. Dave Mello – approved
- b. Clean Energy Task Force vs. Commission.

Catherine discussed potential Town Council resolution to convert the Task Force into a permanent Clean Energy Commission. Recognizing the group's long-term value. Name, logo, and maybe even composition would change slightly.

4. Ongoing Business

- a. Hotel LEED

Catherine shared hotel project revised LEED scorecard demonstrating 61 of 60 points needed to design to LEED GOLD Standard. Scorecard was provided day before, so there was no time to review or discuss with architect. Will need to review in conjunction with LEED manual to understand notes. Architect is willing to answer questions. LEED credits for LEED-NC v3.0: <http://www.usgbc.org/credits/new-construction/v2009>

- b. Street Lights / Energy Projects

Samples being installed by Public Works; Catherine will send location list.

- c. Stretch Energy Code – Tim Mikloiche, rescheduled to Feb 13

Tim is coming next time. Catherine and Bernie will email him some notes/questions ahead of time.

- d. Outreach Plan for 2017

- Bernie's draft

Some potential partners were identified for business outreach: Rick Liftig (Elmwood Assoc) , Patrisi's successor, (Park Road Assoc), Building Dept, Assessor, Green Bank.

We wonder if it makes sense to distinguish between businesses who OWN their own businesses vs. renters.

The Fernwood was mentioned as a candidate for energy improvements.

There was a question about whether the 0% financing thru Small Business Energy Advantage program applied to churches and non-profits. Catherine confirmed with Eversource that non-profits/churches/church-schools are eligible for this 0% on-bill financing. The SBEA program and 0% financing eligibility is based on Rate and average KW demand.

Catherine mentioned that she like to do less workshops this year.

People seemed to like the idea of reaching out directly to businesses and scheduling a specific appointment time for a free SBEA on-site visit. Rather than relying on them to make the call.

5. New Business

a. Potential summer intern – Energy Plan

Catherine mentioned the possibility of hiring a summer intern to work on the Energy Plan. There was a question/discussion of whether to make it paid or unpaid. Catherine will draft a job description and work with Bob Palmer and Human Resources.

b. Flyer for Jan 24 light bulb swap

Catherine provided copies of flyer for people to distribute. Will send electronic version too.

c. Joining WH Chamber of Commerce

Bernie/James had asked in his absence that group consider potential benefits of joining WH Chamber of Commerce as an organization (\$275). There was discussion about the good relationship that WH-CETF has always had with WH Chamber and whether that was really necessary. The group requested more information from Bernie/James about what additional benefits we would get from joining and paying a membership fee, which we couldn't already get for free. Bernie also indicated he plans to join as an individual (\$100) anyway and would keep us informed.

d. Celebrate WH

Group agreed we should continue to participate. Catherine will do paperwork to get a booth.

e. Media Coverage

Joe expressed some continued concern that WH-CETF does not get enough media publicity about the things we are working on, especially in the Hartford Courant. He asked the group opinion on a draft communication to Tom Condon about ways to improve our visibility. Group was in favor of Joe sending email.

f. Pay-As-You-Throw

Chris mentioned a WeHa article on the West Hartford trash solutions proposals and the public meetings that are being held Jan 18, Jan 25, and Feb 1. Some task force meeting indicated they would be attending and try to speak up in support of the program.

6. Adjournment – 9:04 PM